

Town of Newport Local Law No. 4 of 2025

A Local Law to Provide for a Partial Tax Exemption for Real Property Taxes of Real Property
Owned by U.S. Veterans

BE IT ENACTED by the Town Board of the Town of Newport, County of Herkimer, State of New York, as follows:

Section 1. Legislative intent and purpose.

- A. The Town Board finds and determines that the sacrifices and services provided by veterans in protecting this country should be acknowledged by providing certain tax exemptions.

Section 2. Alternative veterans exemption granted.

- A. The real property tax exemptions provided in § 458-a of the Real Property Tax Law (entitled “Veterans; alternative exemption”) shall be available to those eligible veterans and other qualified owners in the Town of Newport subject to the requirements and limitations set forth in § 458-a of the Real Property Tax Law and in this local law.

Section 3. Alternative veterans maximum allowable exemptions.

- A. Qualifying residential real property, as that term is defined in § 458-a(1)(d) of the Real Property Tax Law, shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of fifteen percent of the assessed value of such property; provided, however, that such exemption shall not exceed twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000) or the product of twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000) multiplied by the latest state equalization rate for the assessing unit, or in the case of a special assessing unit, the latest class ratio, whichever is less.
- B. In addition to the exemption provided by paragraph (A) of this section, where the veteran served in a combat theatre or combat zone of operations, as documented by the award of a United States campaign ribbon or service medal, or the armed forces expeditionary medal, navy expeditionary medal, marine corps expeditionary medal, or global war on terrorism expeditionary medal, qualifying residential real property also shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of ten percent of the assessed value of such property; provided, however, that such exemption shall not exceed eight thousand dollars (\$8,000) or the product of eight thousand dollars (\$8,000) multiplied by the latest state equalization rate for the assessing unit, or in the case of a special assessing unit, the class ratio, whichever is less.
- C. In addition to the exemptions provided by paragraphs (A) and (B) of this section, where the veteran received a compensation rating from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or from the United States Department of Defense because of a service connected disability, qualifying residential real property shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of the product of the assessed value of such property multiplied by fifty percent of the veteran’s disability rating; provided, however, that such exemption shall not exceed forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) or the product of forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) multiplied by the latest state equalization rate for the assessing unit, or in the case of a special assessing limit, the latest class ratio, whichever is less. For purposes of this paragraph, where a person who served in the active military, naval, or air service during a period of war died in service

of a service-connected disability, such person shall be deemed to have been assigned a compensation rating of one hundred percent.

Section 4. Cold war veterans exemption granted.

- A. The real property tax exemptions provided in § 458-b of the Real Property Tax Law (entitled “Exemption for Cold War veterans”) shall be available to those eligible veterans and other qualified owners, for as long as they remain a qualified owner, set forth in the Town of Newport subject to the requirements and limitations set forth in § 458-b of the Real Property Tax Law and in this local law.

Section 5. Cold war veterans maximum allowable exemptions.

- A. Qualifying residential real property, as that term is defined in § 458-b(1)(f) of the Real Property Tax Law, shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of fifteen percent of the assessed value of such property; provided, however, that such exemption shall not exceed nine thousand dollars (\$9,000) or the product of nine thousand dollars (\$9,000) multiplied by the latest state equalization rate of the assessing unit, or, in the case of a special assessing unit, the latest class ratio, whichever is less.
- B. In addition to the exemption provided by paragraph (A) of this section, where the Cold War veteran received a compensation rating from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or from the United States Department of Defense because of a service-connected disability, qualifying residential real property shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of the product of the assessed value of such property, multiplied by fifty percent of the Cold War veteran disability rating; provided, however, that such exemption shall not exceed thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) or the product of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) multiplied by the latest state equalization rate of the assessing unit, or, in the case of a special assessing unit, the latest class ratio, whichever is less.
- C. If a Cold War veteran receives an alternative veterans’ exemption authorized by § 458-a of the Real Property Tax Law, the Cold War veteran shall not be eligible to receive an exemption under this section.

Section 6. Application for exemptions.

- A. Application for the exemptions set forth in this local law shall be made by the qualified owner, or all of the qualified owners, of the property on a form prescribed by the New York State Board of Real Property Tax Services. The owner or owners shall file the completed form with the Town Assessor on or before the first appropriate taxable status date. The exemption shall continue in full force and effect for all appropriate subsequent tax years and the owner or owners of the property shall not be required to refile each year. Applicants shall be required to refile on or before the taxable status date if the percentage of disability percentage increases or decreases or may refile if other changes have occurred which affect qualification for an increased or decreased amount of exemption. Any applicant convicted of willfully making any false statement in the application for such exemption shall be subject to the penalties prescribed in the New York State Penal Law.

Section 7. Severability.

- A. If any provision hereof, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, is adjudged invalid by a court or tribunal of competent jurisdiction, such provision shall be deemed severed and any such judgment shall not affect or impair the validity of the other provisions of this local law (which shall remain in force and effect) or the application hereof to other persons and circumstances.

Section 8. When effective.

- A. This local law shall take effect immediately upon its filing with the Secretary of State of New York.